



Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center
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Gaylon Lee - Forest Activities Program Manager
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Gaylon:

Here are additional photos showing that USFS management is not protecting water quality and watershed values. Please consider whether or not a "waiver" and BMPs are the appropriate strategy to actually achieve the objectives that the State Water Board purports to desire for California's water resources and watersheds under U.S. Forest Service management.

John Buckley, executive director



Steep hillsides become a challenge with only rare USFS intervention or enforcement.





Cattle grazing along streams crumble streambanks, and it also frequently reduces or eliminates the deep-rooted native riparian vegetation of a healthy stream corridor.





Another trashed spring (above) and an overgrazed streamside riparian area (below).





This spring and seep at Deer Creek on the MiWok District is consistently degraded by cows.



Road ruts invariably send sediment off the road and down drainages to nearby streams.



Sediment and even gravel flushed from the road rut pours over the bank into the drainage





Over-grazed meadow stripped to bare soil, plus the spring area was trashed by cows...





Streambank damage year after year adds up to significant water resource impacts, especially when the USFS doesn't even monitor or assess streambank impacts.



When roads on FS and private forest lands remain open during wet season periods after soils are saturated, major ruts create channels that can discharge sediment into streams.

